FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL VALUES

EMPATHY ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of the school community,

Welcome back from the school break. I hope that all our families and staff were able to have some well-deserved rest and relaxation. Winter is a great time to spend time indoors and explore many of the indoor activities with friends and family.

Term three is our most challenging term as there is always more bugs around and this can interrupt learning opportunities. Please be mindful of how your child is presenting. If they have symptoms of being unwell please take them to the doctor. Minimising the cross infection will assist in reducing the risks of spreading these winter bugs and viruses.

DET Regional Disability Team Visit

Late last term, three members from the Regional Disability Team visited JSA to find out more about the school, in particular they were very interested in the transition processes. Acting Manager, Cheryl Mills’ feedback was extremely positive and I would like to share her comments regarding the visit.

“We left Jacana in awe of your school, the programs and the support you offer the students and families. I believe we can learn much from your leadership and school model to assist us in working with students and families with ASD in the mainstream sector”

It’s great to receive such heart warming feedback from the team. Well done everyone!

School Improvement – 2015 Parent Opinion Survey

All schools are required to participate in the collection of information, which is an important part of parent engagement and will assist with future planning and school improvement. The department is conducting a Parent Opinion Survey during Term. As in previous years, 40 parents are selected to participate. The survey is confidential and designed to protect the identity of individual respondents.

Schools assist in the delivery of the survey by using CASES21 to create the random sample list of parents as well as sending out, collecting and returning the surveys. If you receive this survey, please take the time to respond, as your feedback is very important in the future planning needs of the school. The collection will occur between the 27th July and 7th August.

Mid Year Reports

Your child’s Mid Year Report will be sent home on 24th July and Term 3 SSG’s are scheduled for weeks 3 & 4. (Monday 27th July – Thursday 6th August). We look forward to seeing you again to discuss your child’s progress.

School Performance

Reminder: School performances will be held on Wednesday 2nd September and Thursday 3rd September.

Wednesday 2nd September

Rooms 1 – 6 (9.30am – 10.30am)
Rooms 7—12 (1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Thursday 3rd September

Rooms 14 – 19 (9.30am – 10.30am)
Rooms 13 & 20-25 (1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Please log on to the website and follow the Trybookings link. Alternatively, please contact the general office for assistance with bookings and tickets. There is no cost to attend the school performance.

2015 TERM DATES:
*Term 1: 30 January—27 March  *Term 2: 13 April—26 June  *Term 3: 13 July—18 September  *Term 4: 5 October—18 December
Staffing
Welcome to Sandra Da Cunha who will be working in the secondary school. Congratulations to Amy Bonson and her partner on the safe arrival of Henry Winter. I believe Amy is enjoying motherhood and all the joys that come with being a first time mum.

Practice Emergency Evacuation
In the last week of Term 2, we held an emergency evacuation drill. Most students cope very well due to regular opportunities to practice the evacuations with their classroom. Staff provide items to assist students to regulate during times of high anxiety. For example, headphones are made available for students who struggle with loud or sudden noises and “fiddle” toys to provide a distraction for students as well as visual instruction cards on teachers’ emergency management lanyard instructions. The OHS committee will seek feedback and review any processes to ensure all the community are kept safe in the event of an emergency evacuation.

School Council
Parent Representative - Casual Vacancy;
A casual vacancy on the council now exists. Please speak to me if you are a parent and interested in joining the school council and learning more about how the school operates and contribute to the great community we have built together.

Family Support Meetings
Reminder: Our next Family Support Meeting will be held on Thursday 30th July – This will be an opportunity for families to hear about Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) at JSA. This is an opportunity not to be missed. The launch of PBS will include a trivia quiz and a show bag for attendees. Staff are excited to present this for our families. Mark this date in your diary. Please contact Deb Munt for more information about the Family Support Meetings.

Fundraising Committee
Our next Fundraising meeting will be held on 30th July at 10.30 am.
Fundraising events for term 3, 2015 include:

Entertainment Books – Great way to access discounted food and entertainment (Place your orders at the general office – cost $65.00/ $13.00 profit from each book sold goes to JSA)

Book Fair - Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th August

Bunnings BBQ – Broadmeadows 9th August

Father’s Day stall – Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th August

School Performance & Community BBQ – Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd September

Footy Day/Special lunch order day - Thursday 17th September
Lisa Sette is our Fundraising Co-ordinator and can be contacted via the school office or sette.lisa.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

2014/15 School Councillors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corinne Pupillo</td>
<td>Executive Officer (Principal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Sette</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Edgar</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dianna Lauria</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Davis</td>
<td>Parent Representative / DET Employee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>Parent Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Stolinski</td>
<td>Parent Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Shennan</td>
<td>Parent Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Smedley</td>
<td>Community Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Clarke</td>
<td>DET Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristie Giannakis</td>
<td>DET Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Johnston</td>
<td>DET Representative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Education State — Consultation Process
The Department is seeking feedback regarding State Education. A flyer is attached for your information about the process. I encourage you to provide feedback using the link: educationstate.education.vic.gov.au

www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au
Parent Occupation Confirmation

We are updating our database and we are asking for your assistance by completing and returning the Parent/Guardian Occupation Confirmation form.

You will have received an explanation letter and form via the mail, if you have not completed the form, please do so and return it with the self-addressed envelope by Monday, 20th July, 2015. For those that have completed and returned the forms, thank you. New forms are available from the office if the original has been misplaced.

Reminder: Our newsletter is published each fortnight and will provide you with important information about the school and events that may be of interest to you. I encourage you to read the newsletter that will be sent home with your child, emailed to you or on the school website.


JSA also has a Facebook Page administered by the leadership team. https://www.facebook.com/JacanaSchoolforAutism

Corinne Pupillo
Principal
19 - 39 Landy Road, Jacana VIC 3047
Phone: 9309 6258
Fax: 9309 6426
jacana.school@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.jacanaschoolforautism.vic.edu.au Learning for life
ROOM 5
WHERE EVERY DAY IS AN ADVENTURE!

Adele
we are focused

Daisy
we are inventors

Firas
we are explorers

we are one

Ibrahim
we are creative

Kerem
we are hands-on

Tyler B
we are proud

Logan
we are learners

Tyler M
we are happy
Room 18 has been going to Blackwood Outdoor Education Camp to participate in team bonding and leadership activities. We've had fun going on trails, bushwalking, and learning to work as a team. We look forward to more exciting sessions ahead!
Talking About ASD With Your Child, Family and Friends –

An Ongoing Conversation

Prepared by Lydia Wilson (Psychologist) based on the Amaze Information Sheet “Sharing the Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder”

When a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is made, parents make decisions about who to share this information with. What information to share with others will change as the child develops and achieves goals, so it is important to revisit this topic from time to time.

There are many benefits to explaining to the child their diagnosis of ASD. These include the child being able to better understand why they may find certain things difficult or stressful. The child can understand better how they learn and what may help them learn best (for example using visual supports). As children get older they may become more aware they are different to siblings and others and providing clear information about ASD and the strengths and difficulties that go with this diagnosis is a helpful way for children to understand this difference, rather than thinking of this difference negatively. For example parents could talk about a child with a strength in having a good memory for facts – “you are an expert on...” and difficulty in understanding social interactions – “sometimes you find it hard to tell how someone is feeling”. Helping your child gain understanding of what is challenging for him/her individually and what is helpful for him/her is important in developing important life skills in regulating emotions and behaviour.

As children become older it is important to consider their opinion on who in the wider community they may want to share their diagnosis with, and who they would prefer not to share this information with.

It may also be helpful for siblings, friends and family to understand your child’s diagnosis by providing clear information and being open to answering questions they may have. It can be reassuring for siblings to know that other children and families also experience similar issues. There are books and other resources available for a variety of age ranges for siblings that are useful as they address questions that siblings may not be comfortable to ask such as will they “catch” ASD or did they “cause” ASD. These are listed in the amaze Information sheet “Sharing the Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder”. Amaze has resources on sharing the Diagnosis of ASD on the website: www.amaze.org.au

When discussing your child’s ASD diagnosis it is important to remember that everyone is different and this is only one part of what makes them their own unique person.
SLEEP STRATEGIES

As you may know children with Autism may have difficulty sleeping or may have an inconsistent sleep pattern.

Below are some strategies that may assist you to manage your child’s sleep patterns and behaviours:

- Set consistent and regular bedtime and wake-up time.
- Ensure your child has plenty of time to engage in active outdoor play during their day.
- Avoid large meals before bed and limit food/drinks containing caffeine at least 4-6 hours before bed.
- Incorporate calming activities into your child’s bedtime routine such as:
  - Having a warm bath prior to bed
  - Use of firm deep touch e.g. a firm towel rub after bathing, giving them a massage, cuddles, pillow squishes etc
  - Use of slow rhythmic movement e.g. rocking – use caution as movement can affect children differently
  - Use of calming or familiar music
  - Dim lighting
  - Use of weighted items e.g. weighted blanket – this should be done under the guidance of an Occupational Therapist

- Create a consistent sleep routine to prepare your child for bed.
- Use of visual timetables to assist comprehension of the routine e.g.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dinner</th>
<th>Bath</th>
<th>Put on pyjamas</th>
<th>Say goodnight to Dad</th>
<th>Bedtime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Use of positive behaviour supports to encourage your child to sleep and stay in bed e.g

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stay in bed</th>
<th>7 o'clock</th>
<th>Wiggles</th>
<th>Get up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Seek advice from an Occupational Therapist who can suggest a specific sensory diet plan to assist your child’s sleeping patterns.
Premier's Reading Challenge

We have 9 weeks to go before the 2015 challenge finishes.
It is not too late to join the challenge. Just contact your child’s teacher or Sue. J and just log the books on the sheet attached.

D’Arcy Owen— 5 books (2 challenge and 3 choice)
Ali Sammaki— 8 books (3 challenge and 5 choice)
Liam Norgren— 61 books (29 challenge and 32 choice)
Mark Catchpole— 8 books (3 challenge and 5 choice)
Andreas Kagiari—13 books (3 challenge and 10 choice)
Emma Davis— 23 books (1 challenge and 22 choice)
Alannah Lo Giudice— 28 books (1 challenge and 27 choice)
Thomas Grimaldi— 25 books (1 challenge and 24 choice)
Jack Shadlers— 15 books (2 challenge and 13 choice)
Rhys Adamson— 3 books (1 challenge and 1 choice)
Jack Figliola-Scrubba—23 books (20 challenge and 3 choice)
Ahmad Kaddour—11 books (1 challenge and 10 choice)
Josh Parry—2 books (1 challenge and 1 choice)
Ryan Basham—2 choice books
Thomas Holland—8 choice books
Adam Tsiyridis—8 choice books
Tobi Ward Boas—4 choice books
Madison Beasy—27 books (2 challenge and 25 choice)

Nafiz Yildrim— 2 books (1 challenge and 1 choice)
Damien Ahmed— 6 books (3 challenge and 3 choice)
Daniel Butler—7 books (3 challenge and 4 choice)
Ayden Duncan— 7 books (4 challenge and 3 choice)
Hamdi El Rifei—3 books (1 challenge and 2 choice)
Anthony Gargano—7 books (3 challenge and 4 choice)
Daskh Lamba—3 books (1 challenge and 2 choice)
Katarina Pavkov—7 books (3 challenge and 4 choice)
Massimo Sartore—7 books (3 challenge and 4 choice)
Ali Moses—36 books (13 challenge and 23 choice)
Audrey Collins—23 books (12 challenge and 11 choice)
Memphis Sette—45 books (28 challenge and 17 choice)
Aaron Alesco—9 choice books
Erkem Caliskan—2 choice books
Steven Mazloum—8 choice books
Joshua Thorne—6 choice books
Declan Walley—35 choice books

Challenge finishes September.
Literacy & Numeracy Week Celebrations

National Literacy and Numeracy week is 31 August—6th September. Please see attached flyer which will have additional information for parents.

This time clashes with our school performance so we will be celebrating with planned activities from the 19th to 28th August (just prior to the national dates).

♦ **Book Fair — 19th & 20th August.** A selection of books will be on display for students to purchase. All classes visit the display and students may bring home a wish list to you. Stall will also be open for parents.

♦ **Primary Section Book Character day — 26th of August**

♦ **AAC EXPO**—You are all invited to come along to this event hosted by our very own speechies, supported by external agencies Liberator and Yooralla ComTEC. We will have displays of AAC systems, and interactive activities for you to trial and discuss with us. See attached flyer

♦ **Literacy & Numeracy Classroom activities**

More details regarding all activities to follow

For more information on the Premiers Reading Challenge


Challenge book lists :


Keep reading everyone.
An exciting event for parents/caregivers, educators and allied health professionals supporting children with complex communication needs. You will be able to:
- see a range of AAC available
- learn more about AAC and how to support your child to use it
- have a go with fun activities
- talk to speech pathologists from Jacana School for Autism, Yooralla ComTEC and Liberator PTY Ltd

Augmentative and Alternative Communication EXPO

Date: 26th August
Time: 2:30 - 5:00
Location: 19-39 Landy Rd Jacana
RSVP Wednesday 19th August 2015
martina.beggs.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
## Reading Log

**Name:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title of Book</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Signature (Teacher or Parent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once page complete please give to Sue J
EXPLORE

NATIONAL Literacy and Numeracy WEEK

31 August – 6 September 2015

For more information visit
www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

In association with:
Calling all Parents, family members and Carers!

You are invited to Jicana School for Autism to celebrate:

School Wide
Positive Behaviour Support
Launch

- What are our school rules?
- What is SW-PBS?
- How can it help you at home?

Find out:

TIME: 9:15am — 10:30 am
DATE: Thursday, 30th July, 2015
PLACE: JSA Professional Learning Centre
RSVP: Wednesday, 22nd July, 2015

I WILL BE ATTENDING THE SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT LAUNCH
NAME: .................................................................
NUMBER ATTENDING: ...............
At JSA our expectations for students are based on the individual’s needs and abilities.
AUTISM HEALTH & WELL BEING EXPO

Saturday, 25th July 2015
10am - 5pm
Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre
Cnr Bell Street & St Georges Road
Preston, Victoria 3072
Australia

The very first Expo of its kind in Melbourne!
We have exhibitors covering the areas

- Psychology
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Teacher training
- Anti-bullying organisations
- Fitness and Self care
- Natural therapies
- Calming and education equipment supplies
- Clubs and sports groups
- Community, Government and Adult support organisations
- And many more!

Competitions, special guests for the kids, a soccer clinic for teens and presentations throughout the day. A Quiet Room to retreat to when needed and there's something for all ages, for all people whether they have autism, are carers, educators or just want to know more!

Tickets available at
www.autismhealthandwellbeingexpo.com

$15 Adult
$10 Student
$10 Concession
Children under 12 years old FREE!

Tel: 1300 665 602
facebook.com/autismhealthandwellbeingexpo

10% of profits will be donated to Aspergers Victoria.
MINECRAFT DRAWING COMPETITION!

As part of the Autism Health & Well Being Expo, to be held on Saturday 25th July 2015, we are running a Minecraft Drawing Competition for all under 12 years olds, whether they have autism or not!

A Minecraft Hamper is up for grabs which includes all your favourite Minecrafthy things (worth around $100). All you need to do is draw your favourite character, include your name and phone number on the back of your drawing, and send it to us.

All entries will be exhibited at the Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre (DAEC) Corner of Bell Street and St. George Road, Preston, from the 10th July until the Expo, with your first name (only) next to your drawing (note that we will NOT display your surname or phone number).

This means that once you submit your entry, give us a few days so that we can post it up at the DAEC, and you can visit and see your entry on display! Visit the DAEC and head towards the Exhibition Space to see your entry.

For under 12 year olds, send in as many entries as you like! And if you really like your work make a copy of it before sending it to us as we cannot return entries/drawings. Our Expo panel will judge all the entries at the end of the Expo day on the 25th July, and the winner will be notified by phone soon after.

There are two ways to submit your drawing:

1. **Email:** scan in your drawing or take a photo with a mobile phone, save it as a jpeg, and make sure to include the back of your drawing as the back should have your name and telephone number on it. We’ll print out your picture in colour and make sure it’s displayed on the day. Email your entry to: mcraftcomp@ahwbexpo.com

2. **Mail:** post your drawing, with your name and telephone number on the back of your drawing, to: Minecraft Drawing Comp, PO Box 296, Northcote, Victoria 3070.

Good luck Minecrafters!

www.autismhealthandwellbeingexpo.com
Help shape the EDUCATION STATE

We want to hear from you, so to have your say go to: educationstate.education.vic.gov.au
Jacana School for Autism
Shopping Spree Bus Tour 2015!

Are you needing some ‘you time’ that you never seem to have? Some retail therapy? The Shopping Spree Bus Tour is just for you!

Please join the fundraising team on a fun-filled FRENZY spending day! We will be visiting great outlets where you can SAVE UP TO 70 % OFF RETAIL PRICES! Our profit will be 11% of the commission on our total sales for the entire day which will go towards our fundraising goal of 2015 - more new bikes for the bike education program and additional sections for the stage.

TOUR INCLUDES: 10 outlets and a 2 course lunch at The Croxton Park Hotel with soft drink and tea/coffee. Alcohol will be at bar prices. Also throughout the day on the bus there will be raffles, prizes, giveaways, refreshments and nibblies too!!!

The outlets will be;
Siricco, Toy Worx, Bambis, Beaches, Raglan Fashion House, FILA, Candy Stripes, Natio, Home Direct, Ross’s Nuts.

DATE: Sunday 11th October 2015    PICK UP TIME: 7.30am for 7.45am departure
PICK-UP ADDRESS: Kmart Campbellfield, Hume hwy (across from Hungry Jacks)
DROP-OFF: approx. 6.00pm    PRICE: $55 per person (Due 18/9/15)

***PLEASE EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST BY CONTACTING CARLEE OR JULIE ON 9309 6258 OR COME INTO SEE US AT RECEPTION

The tour also includes the following:  *Luxury coach transport
* A friendly and informative hostess
SO DON'T MISS OUT!